

Bothwell's New MRI Arrives

Bothwell Regional Health Center's new 1.5 Tesla MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) arrived this week. The new MRI gives the health center and referring physicians greater capabilities in detecting and diagnosing disease. The new unit has a larger opening and is wider so patients are less likely to feel claustrophobic. The new MRI computer is 30 percent faster, so scans will take less time. It also has software that enables the hospital to take into account metal items, such as rods, joint replacements or shrapnel,

during the scan.

The software also allows complete abdominal scans on patients who can hold their breath for only 10 second intervals. This allows for motion-free scans with more clarity on patients of all ages. And, the new MRI will accept patients weighing up to 550 pounds. Installation and calibration of the new permanent MRI is expected to be complete in early December. In addition to the MRI at the hospital, Bothwell also has an open 1.0 Tesla MRI located at the Bothwell Diagnostic Center at 10th and Winchester.

